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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/676,559	10/02/2000	Yuuichi Tasaki	PNDF-00107	5156

466 7590 12/10/2003

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EXAMINER

ODLAND, DAVID E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2662

DATE MAILED: 12/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

TS

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/676,559

Applicant(s)

TASAKI ET AL.

Examiner

David Odland

Art Unit

2662

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 October 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 3 lines 6 the specification discloses "According to another aspect of the invention," but no other aspect is described. Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because figure 2 shows a flow diagram wherein there is no way of entering steps S15-S17. Namely, step S15 and S17 both have output arrows and neither has an input arrow, thus the process described by the flow diagram could never get to these steps. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described

Art Unit: 2662

in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claim 7 recites "...an internal cell to include its output index information based on user data..." in lines 2 and 3. This process of basing the output index information on user data is not adequately described in the specification in such a manner that would enable one of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the claims invention. Specifically, the specification does not adequately describe how the output index identifier is determined according to the user data and what part(s) of the user data is used to make this determination.

Claim 8 is rejected because it depends on claim 7.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 7 and 8, as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Smith (USPN 6,349,097), hereafter referred to as Smith.

Referring to claims 7 and 8, Smith discloses a unicast/multicast system (a system for processing unicast and multicast cells (see abstract and column 10)), comprising an internal cell generating section that generates an internal cell to include its output index information based on user data (the cells are received by data units and sent to the input portion and the cells include

Art Unit: 2662

routing information such as cell addresses (see figure 2 and column 8)) and an output port conversion table that stores the relation of the output index information and an output port number for the internal cell in the form of one-to-one for the unicast and one-to-one multiple for the multicast (the routing information is used by an address translation section to reference a look-up table in order to determine the output portions of a plurality of data units to which the cell should be sent (see column 8 lines 42-50 and column 10 lines 42-58), thus if the cell is to be multicast a plurality of data units are identified by the multicast processing bits and if the cell is to be unicast, the multicast valid bit is reset which indicates that the cell is not multicast and the cell is only sent to one output portion of the corresponding data unit (see figures 4a and 5 and columns 10 and 11));

wherein said output port conversion table is a memory to an address of which the output index information is assigned (the lookup table is inherently a memory having the assigned output data units for the corresponding cells (see column 8 and figure 2)), data stored in the address being represented as a bit pattern and corresponding to an output port number (inherently, the data in the lookup table is in the form of a bit pattern (see column 8 and figure 2)).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-6 are allowed.

Conclusion

Art Unit: 2662

8. The following prior art, which is made of record and not relied upon, is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- a. U.S. Patent Number 5267235 to Thacker.
- b. U.S. Patent Number 6115379 to Flanders et al.
- c. U.S. Patent Number 6212182 to McKeown.

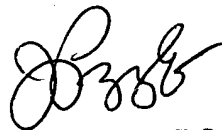
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Odland, who can be reached at (703) 305-3231 on Monday – Friday during the hours of 8am to 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou, can be reached at (703) 305-4744. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist, who can be reached at (703) 305-4750.

deo

December 8, 2003


JOHN PEZZLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER